SACRED RIGHT—RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Coptic Christians—the largest religious minority in Egypt and the largest Christian community in the Middle East—are constantly persecuted.

In 2011, Ayman Nabil Labib went to school like he did every day. Ayman, like most Coptic Christians in Egypt, had a cross tattooed on his wrist as a sign of his Christian faith.

When he got to school, Ayman's Arabic language teacher asked him to cover the tattoo. Instead, Ayman pulled the cross from underneath his shirt and left it hanging around his neck

The teacher became enraged. He choked Ayman and asked Ayman's Muslim classmates: What are you going to do with him? Then his classmates beat him to death to silence his faith

Ayman was murdered because he was a Christian.

Religious freedom is a basic, sacred, universal human right. Alexander Hamilton said in 1775, "The sacred rights of mankind . . . are written, as with a sun beam in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself; and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power."

And that is just the way it is.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, there are only 7 legislative days until the GOP shuts down this government again.

I have been back home. I don't know about you, but what I have heard is that the American people do not want to see another government shutdown. They don't want to see Planned Parenthood defunded, taking away essential health care for women across the country.

What they want to see is for us to work together. They want to see both parties work together to keep the government open for sure, but to go beyond that, to make sure that families can save to own a home, that they can send their kids to college, that they can have something set aside for retirement.

It is not just enough to keep the government open. That ought to be a given. We ought to take up the priorities of the American people.

Unfortunately, what we see is that, in an attempt to get something that a minority of this body wants, they are going to hold up the entirety of the government—shut down the government—over one issue. That is not responsible, and that is not what the American people sent us here to do.

House Democrats are ready to work together. We will compromise, but let's negotiate. Let's have a discussion.

Let's talk to one another and come up with a budget that we can work together on and that we can present to the American people, and let's get back to the business the people sent us here to do.

MANUFACTURING DAY

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage support in promoting National Manufacturing Day, an annual event that is recognized on Friday, October 2.

During a time in which the manufacturing sector is under a number of challenges, Manufacturing Day aims to revitalize the image of manufacturing and to bring awareness of this sector's many contributions to the economy and to the United States' competitiveness.

As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, I intend to support this day of recognition on October 2 in my district, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same in their districts. Manufacturing Day also serves as an opportunity for manufacturers across the country to highlight their work.

Manufacturing is imperative for the future of the United States' economy, and it encourages the growth of American innovation, a skill that must continue to be fostered in this generation and those generations yet to come.

A BIPARTISAN BUDGET AGREEMENT

(Mr. TAKAI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the need to come together, put aside partisan politics, and pass a budget.

More than 7 in 10 Americans are saying they would prefer a budget agreement to prevent the government from shutting down.

I was elected to Congress and came here promising my constituents no more government shutdowns, no more Federal furloughs, and no more sequestration.

I ask for the leadership of both parties to put forward a bipartisan, long-term budget solution to help prevent a government shutdown.

We need to focus on what matters: growing our economy, upgrading our aging infrastructure, and helping to ensure that our citizens are able to obtain the American Dream.

We cannot waste any more time on political gridlock, and it is not fair to hijack our Nation's budget bill. Let's

come together. Let's get to work. Let's answer the call of our constituents, and let's pass a budget.

CHILDREN'S CARDIOMYOPATHY AWARENESS MONTH

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month.

Cardiomyopathy is a chronic disease of the heart muscle that increases the risk of sudden cardiac arrest, which is a condition that claims approximately 295,000 lives in the United States every year. It is also the leading cause of death among schoolchildren.

That is one reason I introduced the SAFE PLAY Act, which would improve the health and safety of student athletes, including those who are diagnosed with cardiomyopathy.

We know that, when sudden cardiac arrest hits, quick intervention saves lives. That is why the SAFE PLAY Act includes provisions to teach students across the country the life-saving skills of CPR and how to use AEDs.

As we recognize Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month, I want to invite my colleagues and their staffs to the second annual AED Hunt on the Hill, taking place tomorrow at 4 p.m. in the afternoon. There you can learn more about cardiomyopathy, how AEDs save lives, and how the SAFE PLAY Act can help. Together, we can make a difference.

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GOP SHUTDOWN/PLANNED PARENTHOOD

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, once again, Republicans are threatening to shut down our government.

Instead of passing a sensible funding bill or a long-term transportation bill that will create jobs, Republicans have chosen to put jobs at risk. They have chosen to weaken security at our airports. They have chosen to close our national parks. They pretty much have chosen not to serve their constituents back home.

And it is for what reason? It is because they are so determined to regulate women's bodies and block women's right to access preventive and lifesaving health care that they would rather throw Americans under the bus.

Last year alone, in my State of North Carolina, Planned Parenthood served more than 31,000 patients, providing mammograms, pap smears, cancer screenings, contraceptive services, and STD testing.

Why would we want to deny women, many who are low income, of these